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After the third century B. C., the scribes gave instruction within the portico of the Temple and sometimes in private homes and; a little later, private schools and elementary schools came to be formed and there was a college of scribes which was probably called the Bet Ha-midrash. The education was no doubt the study of law and morals, but mathematics, history and geography and beside Hebrew and Aramaic, Greek came also to be taught. Elementary schools spread to every town and flourished. Simon ben Shetah made education compulsory as early as 75 B. C. in Jerusalem and Joshua ben Gamala extended this requirement to towns and villages in 64 of the current era. The course of education was outlined and there is evidence of considerable pedagogical wisdom. Teachers were held in high esteem, the qualifications were fixed and the discipline of the schools was rigorous. Undoubtedly this educational system upon which the leaders of the nation always laid great stress is the main human instrument for the preservation of the Jews through all these centuries.

The statements indicate in a very brief way the method of the author in giving a survey of education in the ancient world. To each chapter there is attached a fair bibliography indicating the authorities for the education of each people.

The book is a useful text book for pedagogical institutions and has a considerable value for educators showing as it does that the science and art of education were not born yesterday and that in the history of the world there is a long experience in the art of teaching which has its value for the present day.

## POLLAK'S "MICHAEL HEILPRIN AND HIS SONS"

*Michael Heilprin and His Sons.* A Biography. By GUSTAV POLLAK. New York: DODD, MEAD and COMPANY, 1912. pp. xv + 540.

THIS volume which presents a remarkable study in Jewish family history has a general interest because the men whose lives are described in it covered a wide field of intellectual and artistic ability. Michael Heilprin, the father, was an encyclopedist, an editor, and a Hebrew scholar, and in one aspect a Jewish philanthropist. Angelo Heilprin was a general naturalist but made his

principal reputation as a paleontologist and explorer. Louis Heilprin, like his father, was an encyclopedist and an historian.

Michael, the father, was born in Russian Poland in 1823 and died in 1888. He came of a family which numbered many scholars. Although his activities were mainly outside of the field of Jewish learning, a number of his writings entitled him to the consideration of Jewish scholars. His first contribution of importance on the side of Jewish scholarship was the article on "Hebrews" in Appleton's *New American Cyclopaedia* in 1858. In 1860 he wrote an article controverting the position taken by a rabbi that the Bible was favorable to human slavery. 1879 and 1880 he published his *Historical Poetry of the Ancient Hebrews*, a work which, while substantially accepting the views of the critics of that period, did not slavishly follow them. From his youth he had made notes on the Bible and after his death these notes were edited and published (1893) with an introduction by Dr. Benjamin Szold. Although Michael Heilprin had lost interest in the Jewish religion he was greatly aroused by the Russian persecutions and his loyalty to his people as well as his sense of justice impelled him to aid in the establishment of agricultural colonies for the newly arrived immigrants.

He was Secretary of the Montefiore Agricultural Aid Society which was the originator of much of the agricultural work that has since been done for the Jews in America. He wrote a stirring appeal to the Jews of the United States in 1883 urging them to aid the agricultural movement, and his pen was aided by the inspiring poems of Emma Lazarus. His work at this time was of great service to the Jewish cause.

In 1868 he wrote an article on the Reform Movement among the Jews in which in large and splendid strokes he briefly indicated the course of modern Jewish history. Germany, he declared to be "the central theatre of the movement"....."In all other countries, England and the United States not excepted, the religious as well as the literary movements of the Jews are but reflections of those going on in Germany."

He wrote a careful review of Delitzsch's *Wo lag das Paradies?* in 1881 in which he concisely stated some weighty objections to that very interesting book. Of Stade's History of Israel,

Renan's History of Israel, Sayce's Hibbert Lectures on the Origin and Growth of Religion he also wrote important reviews.

The scientific work of Angelo Heilprin does not come within the scope of this Review but the writer who knew Angelo Heilprin for many years desires to record the great breadth of his scientific labors, his fine artistic ability, his modesty, and his lovable character.

Louis Heilprin who like his father was an encyclopedist and an editor is known to all students by his Historical Reference Book.

Dropsie College

CYRUS ADLER